1; Allen H-4 (no date) 1932 RI1 Georgia RI1

241 peach here more than in any other part; again all kitchen plants and melons of great size grow without cultivation. There are no gardens of flowers, but you find in the plains and in the woods quantities of lilies and of sweet-smelling roses. Mushrooms abound, and there is above all, one sort having a kind of white envelope which later bursts —it is an orange mushroom, and very tasty.

136 "All animals are found in this country with the exception of the camel, but not in such quantities as in other parts of Georgia; sheep, with and without the fat tail, and always with two and sometimes three or four lambs; they are not kept in flocks. . . . Wild animals abound, excepting the chamois and the hyena. . . . Bees are very profitable through their honey and their wax which is in abundance; the honey is very good, very white in some parts and as hard as sugar; this sort is called 'kripuji'. There are many reptiles and serpents which are not dangerous."[1]

133 Amier—"this side"—over the mountains of Likhi, is a land of different character. Long and narrow in its shape, not wide and fat, like Imier. To the north the ice-clad mountains of the Caucasus, to the south the formidable plateau of Armenia; to the west the rim of Likhi; and up this valley as up a corridor, the east wind blows from the Himalaya over the Central Asian steppe, and across the Caspian, dry and searing in the summer, loaded with hail and snow through the long winter. So that while men gather oranges "on that side" by the soft sea in the early spring, on "this side" they go with long poles[2] through the snow against the blizzard.

A great river flows through the land, the Cyrus or Kura which comes from the Georgian name *Mtkvari*—a name which the wise derive from the words for "river" of two different tribal stocks; from *mdinaré* = "flowing" or "river" of the Kartlians, and *a-kuara* = "the river" of the Abkhazians; thus bilingually *Mdinaré-a-kuara*—the river-river—"the flowing", the dominating stream, "the flux" in the life of the primitive tribes who gave the name.

The Mtkvari rises in the lake country south of Ardahani.

● [134] "This country is entirely covered by rocks, comparatively high mountains, rough places and forests; it produces reeds and lilies; it contains rivers, springs and lakes, but few plains; cold in winter in certain parts, and with abundant snow. . . . The country produces all kinds of grains, but not everywhere . . . the fruits . . . are good and abounding . . . most of the flowers grow wild in the woods and on the mountains, and in certain localities the scent of the lilies pervades both the mountains and the plains . . .. the rivers are many and

[1] *Description géographique de la Géorgie par le Tsarévitch Wakhoucht.* Georgian text with French introduction and interleaved translation by M. F. Brosset, Spb. 1842, pp. 539–43 (reference, Wakhushti).

[2] Cf. Strabo, XI, xiv, 4.